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SENATE BILL 196

52ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2015

INTRODUCED BY

Linda M. Lopez

AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS; DISCONTINUING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
COMMON CORE STANDARDS AND RELATED ASSESSMENTS; PROVIDING
REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ADOPTION OR REVISION OF CURRICULAR
STANDARDS; REQUIRING WITHDRAWAL FROM THE PARTNERSHIP FOR
ASSESSMENT OF READINESS FOR COLLEGE AND CAREERS; REQUIRING THE
USE OF ASSESSMENTS IN PLACE BEFORE THE ADOPTION OF THE COMMON
CORE STANDARDS; PROHIBITING CERTAIN AGREEMENTS RELATING TO
ASSESSMENTS; REQUIRING PUBLIC HEARINGS AND A FISCAL ANALYSIS;
MAKING APPROPRIATIONS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. A new section of the Public School Code is
enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] COMMON CORE STANDARDS--DISCONTINUATION OF
IMPLEMENTATION--PUBLIC HEARINGS--LIMITATIONS ON DEPARTMENT

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1 POWER TO ENTER INTO CURRICULAR AGREEMENTS.--

2 A. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the
3 department shall discontinue implementation of the common core
4 standards in any subject area, including English language arts
5 and mathematics, which were adopted by the state as part of the
6 May 2009 memorandum of agreement with the national governors
7 association and the council of chief state school officers
8 until the provisions of this section are met. School districts
9 shall use New Mexico academic content and performance standards
10 and the New Mexico standards-based assessments until the
11 requirements of this section have been met.

12 B. The department shall hold at least four public
13 hearings in each congressional district by November 1, 2015,
14 with the attendance of the secretary or the deputy secretary
15 for policy and programs, or a designee who is an appropriate
16 programmatic manager or director, and the director of the
17 legislative education study committee or the director's
18 designee. At the public hearings, the department shall explain
19 the state's decision to change from New Mexico academic content
20 and performance standards and the New Mexico standards-based
21 assessments. Public testimony shall be taken on the
22 implementation of the common core standards and the process by
23 which the department entered into agreements that changed New
24 Mexico academic content and performance standards. The
25 hearings shall feature a nonbinding vote of the audience to

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1 help demonstrate public sentiment on the topic. Hearings shall
2 be publicized through notices to staff and parents in the
3 school districts in the congressional district in which the
4 hearing is being held and through public service announcements
5 and community organizations. Hearings shall be recorded and
6 available to the public for listening or viewing, as
7 applicable. Continuing reports of the hearings shall be
8 presented to the legislative education study committee at its
9 regularly scheduled meetings.

10 C. The legislative education study committee shall
11 contract with an independent entity with expertise in the
12 development, implementation and assessment of curricular
13 standards to conduct a fiscal analysis of the implementation of
14 common core standards in New Mexico. The analysis shall
15 include:

16 (1) the projected cost of implementing the
17 common core standards and providing necessary professional
18 development for teachers and principals;

19 (2) the projected cost of developing,
20 administering and grading assessments tied to the common core
21 standards; and

22 (3) the cost of retaining the state's academic
23 content and performance standards and the standards-based
24 assessments.

25 D. Before adopting a system of curricular

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1 standards, after July 1, 2016, the department shall compare
2 state standards with other nationally recognized standards of
3 student achievement, including common core, and shall consult
4 with school superintendents, in-state curricular experts and
5 others. After a fair and balanced study of state and national
6 standards, the department shall report to the legislature on
7 its findings and selections.

8 E. The department shall not enter into or renew any
9 agreement that cedes control over curricular standards or
10 assessments to an entity not under the absolute control of the
11 state. The department shall withdraw from the partnership for
12 assessment of readiness for college and careers while the
13 requirements of Subsection B of this section are being
14 conducted, and the department shall not administer the
15 assessments aligned to the common core standards by the
16 partnership."

17 **SECTION 2. APPROPRIATIONS.--**

18 A. Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) is appropriated
19 from the general fund to the public education department for
20 expenditure in fiscal year 2016 to fund public hearings on
21 implementation of common core standards and the decision to
22 change from New Mexico academic content and performance
23 standards and the New Mexico standards-based assessments to the
24 common core standards and assessments. Any unexpended or
25 unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2016

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1 shall revert to the general fund.

2 B. Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) is appropriated
3 from the general fund to the legislative education study
4 committee for expenditure in fiscal year 2016 to contract for a
5 fiscal analysis of adoption and implementation of the common
6 core standards and assessments. Any unexpended or unencumbered
7 balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2016 shall revert
8 to the general fund.

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